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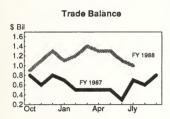


U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

Economic Research Service U.S. Department of Agriculture

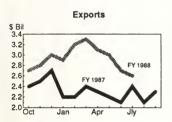
September 20, 1988

Exports and Imports Both Decline in July



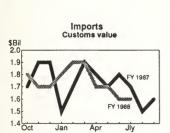
Trade Surplus Steady - The U.S. agricultural trade surplus remained above \$1 billion for the ninth consecutive month in July, virtually unchanged from June. Both exports and imports fell marginally in July, by \$53 million and \$17 million. respectively. According to Census Bureau data released last week, July's surplus exceeded July 1987's \$685 million by about 50 percent. Cumulatively, FY 1988's surplus is nearly twice the value of the same 10 months of FY 1987, \$11.6 billion compared with less than \$5.9 billion (table 5).

Wheat export value rose \$15 million to \$380 million in July, despite a 300,000 ton decline in shipments. This was the third consecutive month tonnage declined, and the first time in more than a decade for reduced wheat exports during the first 2 months of the marketing year. Smaller shipments under the EEP accounted for the decline. EEP exports to the USSR fell substantially, but rose to China and Mexico. Non-EEP shipments grew, combining with higher U.S. prices to further boost the average price of U.S. wheat exports.



Exports - Agricultural exports fell only 2 percent from June, remaining above \$2.6 billion. Summer movement remained seasonally slow as the end of the 1987/88 marketing year drew closer for several major commodities. Cotton and vegetable oil exports fell the most, by \$78 million and \$45 million from monthearlier levels. Fruit, vegetable, hide, and vegetable oil exports fell by smaller amounts, while higher prices boosted export values for soybeans, wheat, and com.

Cotton exports which normally decline at the end of the marketing year, fell nearly one-third, to \$109 million. Shipments dropped to the USSR, Egypt, and the EC. Sales to most other customers were also lower, but shipments to Japan, the largest U.S. cotton customer, fell only 13 percent from June's 23,000 tons. (Steve MacDonald, 202-786-1822)



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Corn exports rose \$28 million during July, reaching \$367 million as higher prices offset lower tonnages. Prompt shipment of the USSR's July corn purchases failed to offset smaller shipments to Japan. Shipments to Korea also rose, while those to Mexico and the EC were little changed from June. Export prices jumped 15 percent in lagged response to early-summer drought-induced crop woes.

Imports - U.S. agricultural imports fell for the fourth consecutive month in July. Imports of most products fell, offsetting rebounding coffee imports. June 1988 coffee imports had been the lowest in a decade following strong shipments during early FY 1988. Meat imports remained at seasonal highs but horticultural imports dropped seasonally. (Steve Milmoe, 202-786-1822)

Soybean exports rose as both tonnage and prices climbed. Shipments to the EC and Japan rose slightly, offsetting declines to smaller customers. Export prices rose 13 percent during July, following June's 19 percent gain.

Large Export Gains Forecast - FY 1988 export value is now expected to reach \$34 billion, compared with \$28 billion in FY 1987. Export volume is expected to climb 17 million tons, to 146 million. These gains largely reflect reduced competitor supplies; higher prices for grains, oilseeds, and cotton; and increased U.S. export competitiveness. FY 1989's outlook is for lower volume and higher value due to higher prices. (Steve MacDonald)

Table 1--U.S. agricultural exports: Quantity and value by commodity

Table 1--U.S. agricultural exports: Quantity and value by commodity (continued)

		Octob	er-July			July	/		
Commodity	Thousand	Thousand units		Thousand dollars		Thousand units		Thousand dollars	
	1986/87	1987/88	1986/87	1987/88	1987	1988	1987	1988	
Pulses(MT) Dried beans(MT) Dried beans(MT) Dried peas(MT) Dried lentils(MT) Hops, incl hop ext(MT) Oilseeds & prods(MT) Oilseeds & prods(MT) Oilseeds & meal(MT) Soybean meal(MT) Soybeans(MT) Soybeans(MT) Soybeans(MT) Soybean oils(MT) Soybean oils(MT) Cottonseed oils(MT) Soybean oils(MT) Cottonseed oils(MT) Other veg oils & waxes(MT) Tobacco - unmfg(MT) Tobacco - unmfg(MT) Tobacco - unmfg(MT) Tobacco - burley(MT) Tobacco - burley(MT) Tobacco - fue cured(MT) Cotton, ex linters(MT) Cotton, ex linters(MT) Sugar & field & garden(MT) Sugar & field & garden(MT) Sugar & tropical prods(MT) Cocoa(MT) Cocoa(MT) Cocoa(MT) Chocolate & prep(MT) Spices(MT) Flavoring sirups & ext(MT) Rubber - crude natural(MT) Nursery & greenhouse prods(NA) Beverages ex juices(HL)	481 371 86 25,668 6,027 6,087 18,293 18,293 127 127 127 111 1,146 268 946 80 128 946 121 121 111 1,146 121 68 946 125 127 111 1,146 121 121 121 121 121 121 121 121 121 12	443 301 308 5,753 5,7566 19,046 11,478 731 167 293 287 202 41 1,273 31 8 274 31 8 743 1,273 11,273 31 8 743 1,273	239, 236 197, 188 29, 326 12, 723 5, 363, 997 1, 220, 1873 3, 562, 863 36, 1873 3, 662, 863 36, 1873 37, 144 359, 144 35	179, 228 134, 517 34, 1.11 10, 571 10, 571 10, 571 10, 571 10, 571 10, 571 10, 571 11, 52, 664 4, 517, 664 4, 517, 664 4, 517, 664 1, 617, 617, 617, 617, 617, 617, 617, 61	22 138 1 1 2,099 470 470 470 470 470 470 470 470 470 470	44 29 78 1,235 2996 8602 8602 8602 770 119 70 10 91 10 91 13 13 13 2	8,873 6,138 2,395 4,418 480,096 98,227 94,245 321,049 98,277 17,788 18,324 114,088 15,395 114,088 15,395 114,088 15,395 114,088 15,395 17,046 15,395 17,046 18,292 17,401 17,046 17,387 18,425 17,046 18,292 20,374 3,826	13,940 8,768 2,565 2,665 2,565 2,667 44,515 82,567 48,286	
Selected non-ag exports(NA) Fertilizers (NA) Fish & shellfish(MT) Ag chemicals, pesticides (MT) Farm machinery(NA) Tobacco - mfg(NA)	396 216	466 233	6,423,527 1,807,268 1,001,943 1,252,215 732,373 1,629,728	8,154,466 2,020,421 1,671,130 1,370,925 816,953 2,275,037	63 16	93 18	737,431 185,221 183,218 96,787 69,517 202,687	1,182,623 247,823 483,119 113,372 80,985 257,324	

⁻⁻ Not available. Data is preliminary. NO = Numbers, MT = Metric tons, HL = Hectoliters.

Table 2--U.S. agricultural imports: Quantity and value by commodity

Table 2-	-U.S. agrīcu		per-July	ty and value b	y connocity	Ju	V	
Commodity and unit	Thousand			dollars	Thousand		•	dollars
comparty and diffe	'		'		1			
	1 1900/07 1	1907/00		1 1707/00	1701			1 1700
Total agricultural imports (NA) Noncompetitive ag imports (NA) Bananas & plantains (MT) Coffee incl products (MT) Cocoa & products (MT) Tea (MT) Spices, incl black pepper (MT) Rubber & allied gums-crude (MT) Wibers, excl cotton (MT) Essential oils (MT) Drugs- crude, natural (MT) Competitive ag imports (NA) Animals & products (NA) Animals-live, ex poultry (NO) Cattle and calves (NO) Swine (NO) Meats & prods, excl poultry (MT) Beef & veal (MT) Beef & veal (MT) Pork - fresh or frozen (MT) Pork - fresh or frozen (MT) Pork - prep or pres (MT) Mutton goat & lamb (MT) Variety meats (MT) Poultry and products (NA) Poultry meat (MT) Egg (NA) Feathers & down - crude (MT) Butte & butterfat mixtures (MT) Casein & mixtures (MT) Casein & mixtures (MT) Casein & mixtures (MT) Sheep & lamb skins (MT) Furskins (NA) Gains, grain prods & feeds (MT) Barley, unmilled (MT) Basta & noodles (MT) Pasta & noodles (MT) Pasta & noodles (MT) Firuits & preps, excl juices (MT) Fruits & preps, excl juices (MT) Fruits - fresh or frozen (MT) Prost fresh or frozen (MT) Pasta & proodles (MT) Pasta & props (MT) Fired (MT) Pasta & preps (MT) Pasta & preps (MT) Fruits - fresh or frozen (MT) Pineapples (MT) Other fruits - fresh or froz (MT) Pineapples (MT) Other fruits - prep or pres(MT): Other fruits - preps or pres(MT):	Thousand 1986/87	7987/88	'	17,503,980 17,503,980 17,503,980 17,503,980 17,503,980 1	Thousand 1987	1988 	Thous and 1987 1, 701, 3557 653, 4761 235, 4761 235, 4761 235, 4761 36, 4609 61, 7476 11, 8601 11, 88	1,603,312 519,495 67,985 247,826 68,266 11,603,312 26,302 4,4383 12,076 4,4383 12,076 1,083,817 12,076 1,083,817 12,076 1,083,817 12,076 1,083,817 1,094
Other fruit juices (HL) Nuts and preparations (MT) Brazil nuts (MT) Cashew nuts (MT) Chestnuts (MT) Coconut meat (MT) Filberts (MT) Macademia nuts (MT) Pistachio nuts (MT) Other nuts (MT) Other nuts (MT)	10,855 129 8 36 45 2 1 1 32	8,012 116 8 32 35 2 1 2 34	259,863 319,543 13,017 212,958 7,144 35,718 6,887 6,887 6,185 3,192 34,444	202,171 272,074 10,461 175,852 6,793 31,922 6,570 8,009 5,765 26,702	1, 197	11 23 0 4 0 0	27,769 36,354 26,230 120 4,088 383 698 242 1,695	21,843 2,124 15,850 51 3,797 178 812 643 1,387
	_		•				-	

Table 2--U.S. agricultural imports: Quantity and value by commodity--continued

	-3	Octo	ber-July		1	July	,	
Commodity and unit	Thousar	nd units	Thousand	dollars	Thousand (units	Thousand	dollars
	1986/87	1987/88	1986/87	1987/88	1987	1988	1987	1988
Vegetables and preparations (MT) Vegetables - fresh or frozen (MT) Asparagus (MT) Beans (MT) Carnots (MT) Carnots (MT) Carnots (MT) Carnots (MT) Carlots (MT) Garlic (MT) Onions (MT) Peas, incl chickpeas (MT) Peppers (MT) Potatoes (MT) Squash (MT) Tomatoes (MT) Other vegs- fr or froz (MT) Vegetables-prepared or pres (MT) Asparagus - prep (MT) Asparagus - prep (MT) Beans & peas, dried (MT) Mushrooms, canned (MT) Olives - prep or pres (MT) Tomatoes, incl paste & sauce (MT) Waterchestnuts (MT) Other vegetables-prep/pres (MT) Sugar & related prods (MT) Spices (MT) Tobacco - sirler (MT) Tobacco - sirler (MT) Tobacco - scrap (MT) Beverages, ex fruit juices (HL) Wine (ML) Malt beverages (ML) Oilseeds & products (MT) Oilseeds & oilnuts (MT) Oilseeds & oilnuts (MT) Oilseeds & waxes-veg (MT) Castor oil (MT) Castor oil (MT) Palm kernel oil (MT) Other oils & waxes-veg (MT) Cotton (inters (MT) Cotton (inters (MT) Cott (inters (MT) Cott (inters (MT) Cut flowers (MA) Nursery stock, bulbs, etc.(NA)	2,182 1,532 144 133 189 177 155 211 103 201 68 414 293 650 3,106 650 2,539 2,106 2,539 1,305 2,549 1,305 1,3	2,193 1,538 11,538 11,538 12,7 21,7 21,7 21,7 21,7 21,7 21,7 21,7	1,316,528 628,813 18,414 9,600 9,870 93,688 53,487 16,343 53,603 21,410 55,172 44,897 34,942 165,425 139,994 687,715 19,756 4,504 17,198 118,249 17,198 181,249 17,198 181,249 17,198 181,249 17,198 181,249 17,198 181,249 17,198 181,249 181,257 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753 181,753	1,376,372 641,228 18,302 10,183 9,408 9,957 75,654 21,842 266,549 37,992 143,020 143,020 143,020 143,020 143,020 143,020 143,020 143,020 157,779 104,352 147,775 364,836 15,779 16,737 16,737 16,737 16,737 17,704 18,737 16,737 17,704 188 163 101 1558 101 1558 101 1558 101 1558 101 1558 101 1558 101 1558 101 1558 101 1558 1558	132 771 1 0 1 1 0 2 3 1 5 5 1 7 61 61 6 9 9 3 2 2 1 1 1 5,556 6 2 2 70 1 1,135 1 124 2 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	126 699 1 0 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	104, 145 34, 677 48, 677 213 64, 677 213 64, 677 213 61, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68, 68	105, 414 34, 956 1, 132 275 174 873 0 1, 374 2, 227 1, 010 4, 270 2, 044 2, 270 4, 270 5, 380 10, 717 7, 380 10, 717 7, 380 10, 717 2, 295 4, 229 36, 510 2, 32 36, 510 36, 510
Selected nonag imports (NA) Fertilizers (MT) Fish and shellfish (MT) Ag chemicals and pesticides (MT) Farm machinery (NA) Tobacco - manufactured (NA)	12,246 29,116 53	13,311 30,242 75	7,284,645 894,575 4,498,883 302,147 1,519,249 69,791	7,741,886 1,186,420 4,104,332 407,440 1,977,485 66,210	809 2,070 5	1,011 3,410 1	755,808 58,524 507,807 25,137 156,439 7,903	636,547 80,548 352,236 9,169 189,077 5,518

⁻⁻ Not available (NA). See page 3 for unit abbreviations. Data are preliminary.

Table 3--U.S. Agricultural Exports (\$ Million)

Commodity	May	June	July	FY to date	Change fm prev. yr
Total	2,970.6	2,675.8	2,622.7	29,148.0	Percent 24.6
Live animals Heat & prep. Hides & skins whice Rice Corn Other coarse grain Soybeans Animal feeds Wegetable oils Horticultural prod. Cotton and linters Tobacco, unsfgs. Sugar products	276.1 306.5 66.9	28.1 204.2 154.3 364.7 47.0 339.1 50.4 242.4 238.1 120.7 330.8 188.5 62.8	41.6 196.7 136.7 380.1 66.6 366.7 76.4 275.4 204.5 76.2 110.3 65.6 23.6	371.3 1,738.2 1,547.3 3,569.7 3,341.8 6,46.9 4,319.7 2,708.5 8,055.6 3,359.9 1,973.1 1,145.0	22.7 9.0 58.8 37.2 30.4 18.6 21.2 10.0 17.0 6.5 61.8 2.4 (5.6)

Table 4--U.S. Agricultural Imports (Customs value) (\$ Million)

Commodity	May	June	July	FY to date	Change fm prev. yr
Totel	1,675.5	1,611.8	1,603.3	17,504.0	Percent (0.7)
Live animals Meet & prep. Dairy prod. Grains & feeds Fruits & nuts Vegetables Vegetable oils Wine Tobseco, unafg. Coffee Cocos Rubber, natural	53.3 222.6 65.7 68.2 257.5 131.5 47.3 77.5 34.6 55.7 189.5 69.3 76.4	43.1 263.8 74.1 78.3 145.6 116.2 58.7 76.0 40.7 52.1 142.0 84.0 75.7	27.0 213.8 76.1 69.5 205.7 105.4 60.6 69.8 36.5 54.9 247.8 68.3 60.7	632.7 2,356.4 7725.9 2,470.1 1,376.4 566.7 833.7 284.6 493.1 1,003.4 759.2	8.9 2.1 6.3 16.9 (1.3) 4.5 4.5 (35.2) (6.7) (23.6) (23.6)

Numbers in parentheses are negative.

Table 5--U.S. Agricultural Trade Summary (\$ Million)

Item	June	July	FY to date	Change fro prev. yea
Agricultural exports 2,6 Imports (c.i.f.) 1, Imports (Customs val.) 1,6	675.8 748.0 612.0	2,622.7 1,738.7 1,603.3	29,148.0 19,191.7 17,504.0	Percent 25 -1 0
Trade Balance: Exports minus c.i.f. imports Exports minus Customs	27.8	884.0	9,956.3	152
valued imports 1,0	363.8	1,019.4	11,644.0	99

Table 6U.S. Agricultural Exports, 1	Table	6U.S.	Agricultural	Exports.	1985 - 88
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Commodity	Fiscal 1985	Fiscal 1986	Fiscal 1987	Fiscal 1988(f)
Total value Wheat and flour Corn Soybeans Animal Products Horticultural Prod.	31.203 4.427 5.788 3.876 4.075 2.607	\$ Bill 26.334 3.463 3.291 4.174 4.353 2.667	ion 27.859 3.084 3.048 4.191 — 5.013 3.152	34.0 4.5 3.7 4.8 5.8 3.7
Total volume Wheat and flour Corn Soybeans Soybean meal	126.0 29.2 46.4 16.6 4.5	Million 109.9 26.6 31.1 20.1 5.5	tons 129.2 29.5 39.3 21.3 6.6	146.0 41.1 43.8 20.7 6.0

(f)= July-September forecast. October-June preliminary.

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